Flood damages in South Kanara

* 280 Q.—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of people that were rendered homeless and the number of houses that collapsed in South Kanara district on account of the floods in June and July 1956 ;

(*b*) the extent of the damage caused to paddy cultivation; and

(*c*) the relief measures taken by the Government?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) 795 families were affected and 569 houses collapsed.

(*b*) An extent of about 420 acres of wet lands was affected and the estimated loss of food crops is about Rs. 1,02,500.

(*c*) Milk powder, vitamin tablets, rice and cash grants were distributed to the victims. Rice for the immediate requirements of the worst affected persons was also distributed in Hosdrug sub-taluk. Precautionary measures against the outbreak of epidemics were taken by the Health staff. Ten gruel centres were started in the affected areas. Clothes were also distributed freely to the victims. Thakkavi loans are also being granted.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : According to the answer given by the Hon. Minister about 420 acres of land were affected on account of the floods. According to the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue, only if all the subdivisions of a particular re-survey number are affected remission is granted. Even if three or four subdivisions in a re-survey number are affected no remission is granted and for claiming remission all the subdivisions must be affected. I wish to know what steps the Government have taken to revise the existing Standing Order of the Board of Revenue on the subject? In that connexion representations have been made to the Board of Revenue and also to the Government that that particular Standing Order should be revised so that even if a particular subdivision in a re-survey number is devastated by floods, remission may be granted by the Government. I wish to know whether any action has been taken on the representations made?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : As regards the second part of the question, I want notice. As regards the other point raised, I may inform the hon. Member that in such cases the Government act according to the rules and in cases where concessions are found necessary, they also grant them.

Sri S. THINAKARASAMY THEVAR : I understand that on account of floods heavy damages have been caused. May I know whether any representations have been received by the Government about the damages caused on account of the floods? May I also know whether any tanks have breached or whether any bridges have collapsed on account of the floods and if so, what action was taken by the Government?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I do not know whether the hon. Member is referring to the place mentioned in the main question or to some other places in Madurai district.

MR. SPEAKER : Questions 281 and 282 may be taken up together as they relate to the same subject.

* 281 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri M. Narayanan Nambiar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of damage caused to crops and property in Kasaragod taluk, including Hosdrug sub-taluk in South Kanara district during the recent heavy floods; and

(b) the relief given by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) An extent of 420 acres of wet lands in Kasaragod taluk and Hosdrug sub-taluk was affected by the floods in June-July 1956. Forty-seven houses in Kasaragod taluk and 713 in Hosdrug sub-taluk were damaged in the floods. The approximate value of the loss sustained is estimated at Rs. 1,02,500 in crops and Rs. 1,07,037 in other properties.

(b) Within 48 hours of the calamity, milk centres for the free distribution of milk were started and monetary relief by way of cash grants was also distributed for the immediate needs of the poor victims of the flood. Cash grants of Rs. 960-8-0 in Kasaragod taluk and Rs. 15,000 in Hosdrug sub-taluk have so far been sanctioned. With the help of the local committees, rice for the immediate requirements of the worst affected persons was also distributed in Hosdrug sub-taluk. Vitamin tablets were distributed among the poorer victims by the Health staff who also took precautionary measures against the outbreak of epidemics. Gruel centres were run in ten centres for fifteen days. Clothes were distributed to the victims. Takkavi loans are also being granted wherever necessary.

* 282 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of damages caused by the recent floods of June-July in Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara district; and

(b) the relief measures adopted by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Forty-seven houses in Kasaragod taluk were damaged and an extent of 420 acres of wet lands in Kasaragod taluk and Hosdrug sub-taluk were affected by floods. The loss in crops is estimated at Rs. 1,02,500. The value of damages to other property in the Kasaragod taluk is Rs. 4,300.

(b) Milk powder, vitamin tablets, rice, clothes and free cash grants were distributed to the victims. Health staff took precautionary measures against outbreak of epidemics. Gruel centres were started in affected areas. Takkavi loans are also being granted liberally.